

REMARKS

The Examiner's action dated August 21, 2007, has been received, and its contents carefully noted. The indication of allowability of claims 4-9 is noted with appreciation.

In order to place the application in *prima facie* allowable condition, claim 1 has been cancelled and replaced by a new independent claim 10 that contains all of the subject matter of original claims 1, 3 and 4. Claim 3 and 4 have themselves been cancelled and all of the remaining claims, claims 2 and 5-9, have been amended to depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 10.

In addition, all of the pending claims have been amended to eliminate all of the informalities noted in Section 2 of the action.

In addition, a replacement abstract is submitted herewith.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the application should now be considered to be in allowable condition, and an early Notice of Allowance is requested.

Appln. No. 10/526,188
Amd. dated December 17, 2007
Reply to Office Action of August 21, 2007

If the above amendment should not now place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call undersigned counsel to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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